with each other and transfer of water from basins with surplus water to water-scare areas for the maximum use of water, has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when the same is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (c) The Task Force has submitted an Action Plan-I and the preliminary document on Action Plan-II to the Ministry of Water Resources in April, 2003 and August, 2003 respectively, giving an outline of the time schedule for the completion of feasibility studies and detailed project report, estimated cost, implementation schedule, concrete benefits and advantage of the project, alternative options for funding and execution of the project as also the suggested methods of cost recovery. Final document on Action Plan-II is excepted to be submitted by the Task Force during, 2004.

Meeting of the Chief Ministers' of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh

783. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether drinking water problems in Andhra Pradesh has been solved after the meeting of the Chief Ministers of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh in September, 2003;

(b) if so, the agreements made on this account;

(c) the role of the Central Government to bury the hatchet between two States; and

(d) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Chief Ministers of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh held a meeting on 20.9.2003 at Bangalore for release of 50 Thousand Million Cubic Foot (TMC) of water from Almatti to supplement the cultivation in Delta system and to meet the drinking water requirement in Nagarjuna Sagar Ayacut, Rayalaseema and Telangana areas. However, no agreement was reached between the Chief Ministers during the meeting for release of water from Almatti dam.

(c) and (d) Seeing the water scarcity being faced by the State of Andhra Pradesh, Union Minister of Water Resources on 11th September 2003 impressed upon Chief Ministers□ of Karnataka to view favourably the request of Andhra Pradesh especially in the present critical situation and take immediate steps for release of water.

Central Assistance for Modernisation of Tungabhadra Canals

784. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to assist in modernization of Tungabhadra canals for mutual benefit of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to resolve water sharing issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) No proposal for providing assistance for modernisation of Tungabhadra Canals has been received from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

(c) The sharing of water stored in the Tungabhadra Dam between Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka is governed by the Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal Award (KWDT). The Tungabhadra Board is overseeing implementation of the KWDT Award.

Long term solution to drought

785. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are working on long term solution to drought;

(b) if so, the details of the 30 inter basin revierlinks including basins having surplus water to share, State-wise and category-wise;

(c) the details of 174 pilot recharge projects State-wise and category-wise;

(d) the steps taken for propagating rain water harvesting, State-wise, as on today, and